

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 83STATE 101047

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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FOR REFCOUNS

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: U.S. SUPPORT FOR UNHCR/WORLD BANK SELF-HELP  
PROJECTS FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES

REF: A) STATE 080774, B) STATE 085435, C) ISLAMABAD  
06089, D) ISLAMABAD 06187, E) ISLAMABAD 06363

1. AT THE APRIL 11 MEETING IN WASHINGTON PREPARATORY TO  
THE PARIS CONSORTIUM, UNHCR/WORLD BANK PROJECTS WERE  
DISCUSSED. THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT ON THE  
WORTHWHILE NATURE OF THE PROJECTS AND THAT THE U.S.  
WOULD SUPPORT THEM IN PRINCIPLE IN ITS STATEMENT AT THE  
CONSORTIUM. HOWEVER, THE QUESTION OF HOW TO CONTRIBUTE  
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TO THE FUNDING OF THE PROJECTS REMAINS UNRESOLVED.  
SINCE AID CANNOT DONATE FUNDS WHICH WOULD BE ADDITIVE TO  
1984 ESF AND RP IS NOT IN A POSITION TO CONTRIBUTE TO A  
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, IT APPEARS THAT DESPITE OUR BEST  
EFFORTS TO FIND OTHER MEANS TO COME UP WITH FUNDS, THE  
ONLY POSSIBILITY OF A USG CONTRIBUTION WOULD BE OUT OF  
ESF AS OUTLINED IN PREVIOUS MESSAGE. (REF A)

2. ACCORDING TO THE UNHCR, BOTH THE FRG AND JAPAN ARE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR  
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PREPARED TO USE MONEY FROM THEIR DEVELOPMENT FUNDS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THIS PROJECT. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THIS WOULD NOT BE ADDITIVE BUT WOULD BE AN ADJUSTMENT TO INCLUDE THIS PROJECT IN THEIR CURRENT PLANS FOR AID TO PAKISTAN. SINCE THE GOP APPEARS TO BE AGREEABLE TO JAPAN AND GERMANY PROVIDING NON-ADDITIVE FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE WORLD BANK PROJECTS IT OCCURS TO US THAT GOP'S INSISTENCE ON OUR PROVIDING ONLY ADDITIVE FUNDING FOR THE PROJECTS MAY BE AN INITIAL NEGOTIATING POSITION. AT PARIS IT MAY EMERGE THAT SOME FORMULA OF REALIGNMENT OF PRIORITIES WITHIN ESF WILL BE POSSIBLE SO THAT THE U.S. CAN DONATE \$2.5 MILLION FOR THE UNHCR/WORLD BANK PROPOSAL.

3. IN THE MEANTIME, HOWEVER, WE REQUEST THAT YOU APPROACH GOP ONCE AGAIN TO MAKE CLEAR OUR POSITION AND THE POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF NO U.S. DONATION. WE DO NOT WANT THERE TO BE ANY MISUNDERSTANDING. IF THE GOP IS SERIOUSLY INTERESTED IN THIS PROPOSAL AS THEY HAVE STATED IN THEIR POSITION PAPER FOR THE CONSORTIUM (REF Q) AND AT THE MEETING OF DONORS IN ISLAMABAD (REPORTED IN REF E), THEN THEY SHOULD BE PREPARED TO BE FLEXIBLE AT PARIS, HAVING IN HAND A FULL UNDERSTANDING OF OUR VIEW IN ADVANCE.  
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4. YOU MAY DRAW UPON THE FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS.

--HAVING CAREFULLY STUDIED THE PROPOSAL OF THE UNHCR AND WORLD BANK FOR INCOME GENERATING PROJECTS TO EMPLOY REFUGEES AND BENEFIT PAKISTAN THROUGH VARIOUS DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES, THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THEY ARE MERITORIOUS.

--THEY WILL PROVIDE LONG TERM ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO PAKISTAN BECAUSE THE NATURE OF THE PROJECTS IS PRIMARILY DEVELOPMENTAL.

--THEY WILL ALSO PROVIDE WORK FOR PAKISTANIS AND REFUGEES. AND THEY WILL REPAIR DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE PRESENCE OF LARGE GROUPS OF REFUGEES. THIS COULD HELP OFFUSE SOCIAL TENSIONS BOTH AMONG REFUGEES THEMSELVES DUE TO IDLENESS AND DEPENDENCY, AND BETWEEN REFUGEES AND LOCAL POPULATIONS IN AREAS WHERE REFUGEES ARE SEEN TO BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE ENVIRONMENT AND WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE.

--WE UNDERSTAND THE GOP WILL REQUEST SUPPORT FOR THIS SCHEME AT THE PARIS CONSORTIUM.

--THE GOP HAS EXPRESSED ITS PREFERENCE FOR DONATIONS

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WHICH WOULD BE ADDITIVE TO MONEY WHICH IS ALREADY BEING  
DONATED FOR OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN PAKISTAN.

--WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY INDICATED THAT WE COULD REALIGN  
PRIORITIES WITHIN THE 1984 ESF TO INCLUDE A CONTRIBUTION  
TO THIS PROPOSAL BUT THAT ADDITIONAL MONEY WOULD NOT BE  
AVAILABLE.

--WE KNOW THAT THE GOP CONSIDERS THE PROJECTS TO FALL IN  
A HIGH PRIORITY CATEGORY IN ITS DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR  
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THE COUNTRY. WE THEREFORE REITERATE OUR OFFER TO ADJUST  
PRIORITIES WITHIN THE ESF PROGRAM TO PERMIT INCLUSION OF  
THIS PROPOSAL.

--IF THE GOP CONTINUES TO HOLD TO ITS POSITION THAT  
DONATIONS FOR THE PROGRAM BE ADDITIVE, THEN THE U.S.  
WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PLEDGE TOWARD THE UNHCR/WORLD BANK  
PROPOSAL.

--WE BELIEVE THAT U.S. INABILITY TO SUPPORT THE WORLD  
BANK PROJECTS FINANCIALLY MAY DISCOURAGE OTHER DONORS  
FROM PARTICIPATING. CONSEQUENTLY THE PROJECTS COULD BE  
UNDERFUNDED AND THEREFORE THEY MAY BE DELAYED OR EVEN  
ABANDONED.

--THIS WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE SINCE OUR STUDY OF THE  
PROPOSAL INDICATES THAT IT WOULD OFFER SUBSTANTIAL  
BENEFITS FOR PAKISTAN.

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